



# CONTACT

*St. Joseph's College Alumni Publication*



VOL. IV

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No. 5

## ALUMNI IN PACIFIC SURVIVE JAP ATTACK

### St. Joe Lists War Program For College Men

#### SUMMER SCHOOL TO HELP STUDENTS GET DEGREES IN SHORTER TIME

A new educational set-up for St. Joseph's College, to be in effect for the duration of the war, was announced by the Very Rev. Dr. Aloys Dirksen, C.P.P.S., president.

The awarding of degrees after three years of college work; the accepting of high school students who have completed seven semesters of preparatory work, and the shortening of the second semester are innovations which carry out resolutions adopted by the American Association of Colleges.

A summer session will be introduced, beginning about June 15 and ending about August 15; so that a student, by attending summer courses, may finish his college work in three calendar years.

High school seniors who have not yet received a diploma but who have sufficient units for college entrance, and who have completed seven semesters of high school work will be accepted as college freshmen for the second semester of this school year.

The second semester will begin January 26, and will end on or before May 15.

#### FORMER PREFECT REACHES GOAL OF ORDINATION

CARTHAGENA, O.—Joseph Lapinski, a prefect at St. Joseph's from January of '39 until September '40, was ordained here in the Chapel of the Assumption, Sunday, December 7. He read his First Mass, December 14, at St. Stanislaus Church, Cleveland.

### THEY SPOKE FOR THEIR SUPPER



JUDGE WYNN G. KNOCH (left) and CARL STOCKHOLM (right) help uphold Cook County's tradition of good speeches and good food. (Story on Page Four).

### Air Corps Claims Most Alumni in Armed Forces

A news roundup of young alumni in the armed forces has resulted in the compiling of the following information:

Charles Peitz is a private in the communications division, of the Field Artillery, at Fort Sill, Okla. He has been chosen to enter the officers candidate school for four weeks of preliminary training. If he survives the cut, he will take three more months of training and will then be given the rank of Second Lieutenant.

Corporal Norb Dreiling in the survey detail, of Heavy Artillery, is now at Fort Ord, Monterey Bay, Calif., having received orders to move from Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Ark., December 19.

Jack Cashman has requested that his address be changed from K Provisional to Co. L, 114th Infantry, Fort Dix, N. J.

Richard Scheiber is a second class cadet in the Navy Air Corps, Pensacola, Fla. He is learning to handle a sea plane bomber.

Aviation Cadet David Jones is in Company B, Primary Flying

(Continued on Page 4; Col. One)



CHARLES PEITZ

### Bechler Writes Of Hickam Field Bomb Assault

#### COMMANDER OF BOWDICH SENDS MESSAGE TO COLLEGE PRESIDENT

#### WAR BULLETIN

Alumni in the Pacific War Zone, according to latest reports, have survived all attacks.

A letter from Lieutenant Commander Joseph H. Seyfried, '12-'16, to the Very Rev. Dr. Aloys Dirksen, C.P.P.S., president of St. Joseph's, indicates that he survived preliminary hostilities.

Larry Bechler wrote, a week after the attack on Hickam Field, "I was in the thick of the whole bombing. I have a few bruises, but I have had many worse from playing football. You should have seen those bombs dropping! They fell all around me. But through the Grace of God I survived it all. The morale here is very high. I witnessed many acts of heroism and valor that cannot be matched."

The safety of William Storey, who has not been heard from, is indicated in this sentence from Bechler's letter, "As far as I know, there were no Decatur boys killed."

Charles Sweet made known his survival in a message to the Rev. Carl Nieset.

No word has come from the Rev. Lawrence Schmieder, '25-'26, chaplain on the U. S. S. Pensacola.

The Rev. John Wilson, who is not an alumnus but who is known by many alumni because he is a member of the Society of the Precious Blood, has been stationed at Fort Stotsenburg, about forty miles north of Manila, P. I. The last message from him came on Christmas. It read: "Safe. So far."

# CONTACT

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Subscription: One Dollar a Year.

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Editors

Edward W. Fischer — Sylvester H. Ley, C.P.P.S.

## Alumni Like To Eat

St. Joseph's was represented at a meeting of the American Alumni Council, January 9, in the Palmer House, Chicago.

A discussion came up as to what kind of meetings are best for an alumni chapter to hold.

Dinner meetings it seems are best for drawing a crowd especially if they are advertised as a special type of dinner that is just a little out of the ordinary. For instance, corn beef and cabbage, or sauerkraut and spare ribs, or chicken in the rough.

The meal should start **promptly** at the hour advertised. Six or 6:30 p. m. were named as suitable times. The dinner plus the meeting, or entertainment following should not last more than an hour and a half, and only rarely two hours.

The point was stressed how alumni can advertise their college by using their local newspapers to announce their meetings and activities. This also makes for better attended meetings.

## Another Phase Nears

**Phase**, the St. Joseph College yearbook, will come from the press within a few months. Last year's book, which used as its theme the Golden Jubilee of the college, seemed hard to beat. But this year's book which features larger and more photos gives promise of at least being as good.

If any alumnus wishes to have his name on the patron's page in the book, he should notify the Rev. Henry Lucks, C.P.P.S. The cost will be \$5. If any alumnus wants a book, but does not wish to be a patron, he can purchase one for \$4.

## Death Takes Father Maurice

Father Maurice Ehleringer, a professor known to practically every alumnus, died of a heart attack, January 9, in St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dayton, O.

The retired instructor of French, Latin, and German was born in Luxemburg 69 years ago. He attended St. Joseph's from 1900 until 1906. He taught in Collegeville for 29 years, following his ordination in 1911. He was retired from his duties as a member of the faculty in 1940. From then until the time of his death, he made his home at the motherhouse of the Society of the Precious Blood, Carthagena, O.

Burial took place, January 13, at Carthagena.

## Meet The Departments

Cultural values, which many educators fear are slipping from the modern educational system, still receive their much-deserved emphasis in St. Joseph's Department of English.

The department, according to the Rev. Dr. Paul Speckbaugh, C.P.P.S., chairman, drills students in fundamentals of grammar, punctuation, and all aids that make for correct writing. It then stirs up curiosity and widens the horizon of the imagination; that the student might begin creative writing.

Correctness, vigor, forcefulness in the use of the language as a medium of speech, and necessary familiarity with the library system are other aims of the department.

In teaching literature, the department stresses the appreciation of the content of literature rather than the history of literature. In other words, professors of English at St. Joseph's are more anxious to have a student show appreciation and interest in great books than to have him merely memorize that a particular author was born in 1771; that his father was a poor but honest cobbler; that at the age of twelve the boy joined a traveling tent show, and so ad infinitum.

The English Department has two divisions—speech and journalism.

In the speech division, the fundamentals of public speaking are taught. From this division spring two drama organizations, the C. L. S. and the Curtain Club, the aims of which are to train students in the appreciation of the drama and in the use of the theatre.

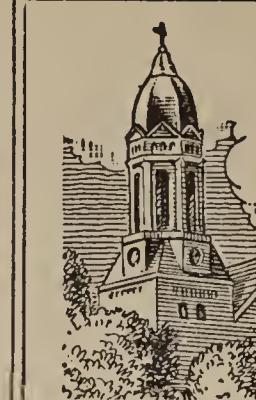
With twenty-three credit hours of journalistic subjects being offered, it is possible for a student to major in that field. Two publications, **Measure**, a quarterly literary magazine, and **Stuff**, a weekly newspaper, come under the supervision of this division. Both have exceptionally high ratings.

The Catholic Poetry Society is an outcropping of the English Department. The group, organized for the study of Catholic poetry, has a valuable collection of first editions of Catholic poets.

Three awards made in connection with the department are the Alumni Essay Contest, the Conroy Oratory Contest, and the Pursley Award for Creative Writing.

Nine priests, the Revs. Paul Speckbaugh, Ildephonse Rapp, Sylvester Ley, Rufus Edder, Camillus Lutkemeier, Robert Koch, Cletus Dirksen, Thomas Grotenthaler, Joseph Sheeran, Ralph Gross, and a layman, Edward Fischer, are numbered on the staff of the department.

**THE CLUBROOM ATMOSPHERE** that used to pervade a barber shop is gone, Brother Dave said. More good fellowship was shown during the hospitable decades when the shop was always crowded. Now all the waiting customers squirm, fidget, and seem very unhappy. Brother Dave thinks the art of conversation has slipped a notch.



## Turn Back the Clock

WITH BICYCLES about to stage a comeback, it seems that Brother Dave has shown more foresight than anyone else on the campus. For forty-three years, he has pumped a two-wheeler between Collegeville and Rensselaer. During times when a fist full of money would buy a set of tires, or even a new car—if the fist were big enough—the St. Joe barber just minded his peddlin', and let the rest of the world roar by. Now, it seems, he will be one of the few survivors on the highway.

TWO NEW BIKES and several second-hand ones have kept Brother Dave rolling for almost half a century. He learned to ride in '98 on an old contraption owned by Father Max Walz. He got his first new bike in '24. He got his second new one better than five years ago. He remembers its age because it came at the time Father Maurice Ehleringer was celebrating his silver jubilee in 1936.

THIRTEEN YEARS without a puncture is the record established by one of Brother Dave's tires. Assuming that in his daily trips to town he averages three miles; then in thirteen years he pumped 14,235 miles.

TWO CLOSE SHAVES stand out in the memory of the campus barber. The first came, many years ago, when an excitable saddle horse jumped over Brother Dave and his bike, on the curve two blocks from the town bridge. The second came two years ago when a trailer, shimmying behind a car along an icy highway, caught Brother Dave on his hind wheel and sent him hurtling through the air with the greatest of ease.

THE REDISCOVERY of the shaving mug rack comes to mind, while writing of Collegeville's barber. While noseying around in the attic of the old faculty building, a short time ago, Father John Baechle uncovered the old rack. He decided to put it to use as a file for negatives in the photo shop.

THE RACK was in its glory back in the more leisurely days before the coming of the safety razor. Each faculty member had a shaving cup with his name on it stored in the rack. Profs dropped in for a shave about three times a week, as Brother Dave recalls it. The students who could spare ten cents each time whiskers bristled from their chins, came to Brother Dave; the rest wielded their own straight razors. A shave and a haircut in those days came to two bits. The lone cup now in use in Collegeville's barbershop belonged to Father Clement Schuette, remembered by many generations of students as the man who wrote the Latin textbooks.

## F.D.R. Renames Chaplain Chief

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate for confirmation today the nomination of Chaplain William R. Arnold as Chief of Chaplains for a second four-year term, effective last Tuesday.

Chaplain Arnold was promoted recently to the temporary rank of Brigadier General, pursuant to a special act of Congress. He will continue in this grade, with headquarters in Washington.

Born in Wooster, Ohio, June 10, 1881, Chaplain Arnold was graduated from St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Ind., with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and from St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, N. Y. He was ordained a priest of the Roman Catholic Church on June 8, 1908, and served as assistant pastor of St. Charles Church, Peru, Ind., until the spring of 1913. After taking a three-month post-graduate course at the Apostolic Mission House, Catholic University, Washington, he became a chaplain in the regular Army with the rank of first lieutenant on May 7, 1913.

During the World War he was in the Philippine Islands and at Fort Winfield Scott, Calif., as a chaplain and at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, as an instructor at the chaplain's school.

He became colonel, Chief of Chaplains, on December 23, 1937, and because of his increased duties in the national emergency, was promoted to brigadier general (temporary) last Nov. 21.

**FORT WAYNE.**—The Very Rev. Msgr. Wm. R. Arnold, Chief of Chaplains of the United States armed forces, has been elevated to the rank of Domestic Prelate by Pope Pius XII, at the request of Bishop John F. Noll, of Fort Wayne, to which diocese Msgr. Arnold belongs.

Bishop Noll commented on the appointment:

"The people of this diocese should be proud of the record of Monsignor Arnold and I know that they will rejoice in the new marks of appreciation shown for his services by both head of the Church and the head of the American Government."

## MEN OF '32 STRESS EDUCATION



### High Percentage Of Class Stick To Books As Life's Work

Each of the forty-three members of the class of '32, while sitting in a class room, must have said to himself, "Gosh, it must be a cinch to sit at the front of the room as a prof and preside while the students do all the work."

Thirteen members of that class have found out that they were wrong, dead wrong.

Three men of '32, shown above, are members of the St. Joseph's College faculty and now teach in the very rooms in which they once studied. Left to right are the Revs. Ralph Gross, Norman Koller, and Clarence Schuerman.

Father Gross teaches English. Father Koller is an instructor in Religion and handles the duties of dean of students. The latter title is just a less harsh way of saying prefect of discipline. Father Schuerman is head librarian and instructor in mechanical drawing.

The Revs. Herman Schurr, Gilbert Wirtz and Lawrence Gollner teach at Central Catholic High School, Fort Wayne.

Two members of '32, the Revs. William Coleman and Joseph Wittkowski are professors at Marynoll College, Clarks Summit, Pa.

Robert Nieset has a teaching fellowship at the University of Michigan while working for his Ph. D. in science. The Rev. Joseph Otte is working toward his degree at the same University.

The Rev. Urban Iffert, C.P.P.S., is dean of students and instructor

at Brunnerdale Seminary, Canton, Ohio.

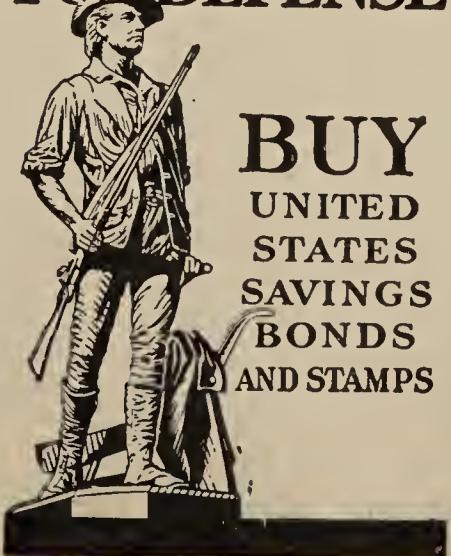
The Rev. Harry S. Connelly is a professor at St. Charles Seminary, Columbus, O.

The Rev. Charles Maloney is working toward his J. C. D. at Catholic University.

The sixteenth edition of "Christian Denominations" by the Rev. Vigilius Krull, '93-'99, is being published by the Messenger Press, Carthagena, and will be ready for distribution about January 15.

## FOR DEFENSE

**BUY  
UNITED  
STATES  
SAVINGS  
BONDS  
AND STAMPS**



## THE ROUNDUP

by



**Coach Joe Dienhart**

ON PAPER, and I place plenty of emphasis on the words "on paper," St. Joe has the toughest team in basketball-crazy Indiana.

When the Great Lakes Naval Training Station team, made up of a group of former collegiate All-Americans, toured the state, the Sailors defeated Notre Dame by nine points; Purdue by 15; Indiana by six; Central Normal by 16, and Butler by 11.

The Pumas, however, led the Naval quintet all the way to the closing minutes only to be edged out by four points. At one time, St. Joe had a thirteen point lead. The Pumas were setting the pace at the half 31-22. The game ended 52-48.

Lieutenant J. Russell Cook, athletic officer in charge of the Great Lakes team, rated St. Joe as the toughest competition on his Indiana schedule.

FIVE VICTORIES and four defeats sums up our season standing to date. We defeated Earlham, St. Norbert, James Millikin, Illinois Wesleyan, and Chicago Teachers. We lost to Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Toledo, Indiana State, and Illinois Normal.

IF ALUMNI near Youngstown, O., would try to get to our game with Youngstown College, Tuesday, March 3, we would appreciate it. That is a new one on our schedule.

THE HIGH SCHOOL team won six and lost five so far this year. The youngsters are showing improvement and should be ripe by the time the State Catholic Tournament comes along, February 20.

### CHAPLAIN AT FORT

**FORT DEVENS, MASS.**—The Rev. Gilbert Esser, C.P.P.S., '12-'18, post chaplain here has parochial work "with a military flavor," baptizing infants and adults, administering the Sacraments. The post defenses are constantly on the alert for air raids. Recruits are arriving daily.

# Ate Hot Turkey; Then Talked Cold Turkey



J. H. HIPSKIND

## AIR CORPS CLAIMS MOST GRADS IN SERVICE

(Continued From Page One)

School of the Army Air Corps, Corsicana, Texas.

Private Jack Fischer is with the Signal Training Corps, Fort George Meade, Maryland.

Dick Cropley is in the Navy Air Corps, Miami, Florida.

Luke Daniel is with the Navy Air Corps, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Harold Duplain is flying with the Army Air Corps, Maxwell Field, Alabama.

Dominic Kastre is a quartermaster at Fort Custer, Mich.

Corporal Ray Juricich is an instructor at Camp Wheeler, Georgia.

Lieutenant Wendel Bowman is in the Army Air Corps, at Randolph Field, Texas.

Corporal Jerome Yocis, graduate of the class of '40, is at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Erwin Behrendt, a prefect at St. Joseph's several years ago, is head librarian for the 38th Division, at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Dr. Gerard I. Urich, '24-'26, a First Lieutenant in the reserve, was called from his work at a veterans' hospital at Buckroe Beach, Va., and was stationed at Lawson General Hospital, in Atlanta.

Among the former students in the army whose addresses the Alumni Office does not have are: Joseph Keane, Carroll Blackwell, William Kozielski, Ronald Golay, Arthur Gilpin, August



MAIN TALKS at Cook County's Christmas Cheer Celebration were given by J. Henry Hipskind, (at left) national president of the St. Joseph's College Alumni Association; Herb Graffis (center) magazine writer and newspaper columnist, and the Very Rev. Dr. Aloys Dirksen, C.P.P.S., (at right) president of the college.

## Cook County Banquet Gets Feminine Touch for First Time

CHICAGO—It was not only the men who came to dinner; the women also came this year, when the Cook County Chapter held its third annual holiday banquet, Tuesday night, December 30, in the Old Town Room, of the Hotel Sherman.

A hundred and four persons attended the turkey dinner given in honor of the current crop of students from the Cook County Area.

Paul Kirchner, '16-'19, president of the Chicago alumni organization, acted as toastmaster. He introduced, in the order of their addresses, the following:

Edward Fischer, '28-'34, national secretary-treasurer of the Alumni Association; The Rev. Boniface Dreiling, C.P.P.S., chaplain of the Cook County chapter; J. Henry Hipskind, '05-'11, national president of the Alumni Association; Coach Joseph Dienhart; Herb Graffis, member of the *Chicago Times* staff; the Very Rev. Dr. Aloys Dirksen, president of St. Joseph's; Carl Stockholm, former champion six-day bike rider and at present director of national health; Wynn G. Knoch, circuit judge of DuPage County, and Vincent Boeke, '25-'27, general chairman of the banquet arrangements.

Father Dreiling publicly accepted his new position of chaplain of the Chicago unit.

National President Hipskind,

outlined the growth of St. Joseph's, and then urged the alumni to fulfill their fieldhouse pledges. He pointed out that St. Joseph's deserves the alumni's support because such institutions will play a big part in the correct rebuilding of our country.

Coach Joe Dienhart introduced the following members of the undefeated football team present at the dinner: Stan Lapsys, Stan Wisniewski, Ted Nowak, Bob Shields, Vito Valone, Charles Lewandowski, and Charles McCarthy.

Herb Graffis, magazine writer and columnist for the *Chicago Times*, said, "I have always wanted to meet members of an alumni association so aware of the good things of life that they hold meetings at Sieben's brewery. I too am an alumnus of Sieben's." His talk went on in a light vein.

Father Dirksen pointed out that he thinks the greatest contribution St. Joe can make to national defense is to continue arming students against false philosophies and unsound ideals.

Mr. Stockholm, a former bike riding champ, outlined, in his capacity of health director, a plan by which the Chicago Park System hopes to double physical activities in Cook County within the next year.

Judge Knoch advised that "each alumnus should do something tangible for his alma mater. It is to our advantage to see to it that colleges which teach Christian principles are preserved."

Mr. Boeke, chairman of arrangements, outlined the work done during the past year. Be-



REV. A. H. DIRKSEN

sides the annual banquet, Chicagoans sponsored a golf tournament, and held business meetings in January, April, July, and October.

## FATHER OF SON

OTTAWA, O.—Richard Trame, instructor in English and athletic coach at Sts. Peter and Paul High School, recently became the father of a boy, George Richard. Alumnus Trame was graduated from St. Joseph's in '38.

## SHOP LAYOUT MAN

CHICAGO.—Thomas Anderson, a graduate with the class of '40, is a shop layout man in the engineering department of the Ceco Steel Products, Inc., Cicero, Ill.

## IN LEGAL DEPARTMENT

COLUMBUS, O.—Martin J. Wanamaker, '07-'11, is connected with the legal department of Ohio State University.

## WORKS FOR DEFENSE

INDIANAPOLIS.—Robert Conley of the class of '41, is on the accounting department of Curtiss-Wright Airplane Manufacturing Co.

## ELECTRICIAN IS APPRENTICE

INDIANAPOLIS.—Joseph Kennedy, of the class of '40, is an electricians' apprentice in the shops of the Big Four Railroad.